

doves • ducks • mergansers • gallinules • geese • snipe

sora rails • woodcock • doves • ducks • mergansers • gallinules • geese • snipe

Hunters get HIP!

"HIP" stands for Harvest Information Program, a program through which hunters provide information that helps biologists manage North America's migratory gamebird populations.

All hunters in Indiana, including those exempt from purchasing a license, must register with the National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) before they hunt coots, doves, ducks, mergansers, gallinules, geese, snipe, sora rails, or woodcock.

Hunters must register by calling (866) 671-4499 or online at www.wildlife.IN.gov and provide the information requested. At the end of the process, the hunter is given a validation number to record on his or her license. This number is valid from the date of registration through the close of the last current migratory bird hunting season. Lifetime license holders must also register with HIP.

Hunters need only register once each season, not each time they hunt. In addition to providing name and address, hunters are asked questions designed to identify which species they hunted last year and, in some cases, the number of birds they harvested.

A black and white photograph showing two hunters in camouflage clothing standing in a small boat on a calm body of water. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The hunter on the left is holding up a small bird, possibly a duckling or similar waterfowl. A dog is sitting in the boat between them. The background shows a shoreline with trees and reeds under a clear sky.

Register online at www.wildlife.IN.gov or call (866) 671-4499.

• snipe • geese • sora rails • mergansers • gallinules • woodcock • ducks •

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License and Stamp Requirements

Anyone hunting migratory gamebirds (ducks, coots, geese, mourning doves, snipe, sora rail or woodcock) must have an Indiana hunting license and a HIP registration number. An Indiana water-fowl stamp privilege, purchased through a local retailer (see page 1), is also required for hunting ducks and geese (the Indiana stamp privilege is covered under the youth license) and must have an original signature, in ink, on the license on which the stamp privilege is issued. Commemorative (traditional) waterfowl stamps do not convey hunting privileges. Additionally, anyone 16 years old or older must have a signed Federal duck stamp when hunting ducks and geese. Landowners or lessees, hunting on farmed land they own or lease, are exempt from the state license requirement except that a Federal duck stamp is required when hunting waterfowl.

Purchasing a License and Stamp Privileges

Online . . .

To purchase resident and non-resident licenses online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, go to *www.IndianaOutdoor.IN.gov*.

In Person . . .

All licenses are available from retailers and most Department of Natural Resources properties throughout the state. A list of Indiana Outdoor license retailer locations is available online at *www.IndianaOutdoor.IN.gov*.

The DNR Customer Service Center is in the Indiana Government Center South, 402 W. Washington St., W160, Indianapolis. Service Center hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

By Mail . . .

To purchase licenses by mail, send your order with the following information:

- name, date of birth, Indiana Driver's License number or Social Security

number (Hunting license: include a copy of your hunter education certificate or card if born after Jan. 1, 1986.)

- Complete address, city, state, zip and phone number
- Height, weight, color of hair and color of eyes
- Specify the license(s), including the season (i.e. deer for muzzleloader)

Send check (payable to DNR), money order or Visa or MasterCard number, including expiration date, for licenses (see prices listed above) to:

By Phone . . .

To purchase licenses by phone, call (317) 232-4200.

For more information, call the Indiana DNR Customer Service Center at (317) 232-4200. All licenses issued by the DNR are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Order the Federal Duck Stamp

1-800-782-6724

Federal duck stamps can be purchased by phone from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. (EST) or online at *www.fws.gov*.

Harvest Information Program (HIP) Registration

1-866-671-4499

Licensed hunters in Indiana must register each year with the National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) before they hunt coots, doves, ducks, geese, snipe, sora rails or woodcock.

In order to register, hunters must visit the DNR website at *www.wildlife.IN.gov* or call 1-866-671-4499 (available August 15, 2006) and provide the information requested. The average time it takes to

register is less than five minutes. At the end of the registration, the hunter is given a validation number to record on his or her license. This number is valid from the date of registration through the close of the last 2006-2007 migratory bird hunting season. Lifetime license holders and persons on military leave must also register with HIP. Resident landowners and tenants who hunt on their own land must also now register with HIP.

Hunters need only to register once each season, not each time they hunt. In addition to providing name and address during the call, hunters are asked questions designed to identify which species they hunted last year and, in some cases, the number of birds they harvested.

HIP is a joint effort between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state wildlife agencies. The program improves harvest estimates for migratory game birds nationwide. Once the harvest information is gathered, the information is used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the states to ensure that decisions regarding hunting seasons are soundly based on scientific evidence.

Shooting Hours

Shooting hours for geese, sora rails, mourning doves, woodcock and snipe are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset. Teal shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.

Shell Capacity Limit

It is illegal to hunt migratory birds (ducks, geese, coots, mergansers, doves, woodcock, sora rails, or snipe) with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler that cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.

Non-toxic Shot Requirements

Hunters are required to use approved non-toxic shot while hunting all water-

fowl in Indiana. Non-toxic shots currently approved for use by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are bismuth-tin, steel, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron, iron-tungsten, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-nickel-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-tin-iron-nickel, tungsten-iron-copper-nickel, tungsten-tin-iron and iron-tungsten-nickel. Copper-plated, zinc chromate-plated, zinc chloride-plated and nickel-plated steel shot is approved as long as the plating represents less than one percent of the shot's weight. Lead shot plated with copper, nickel or other material does not qualify. It is illegal to possess shells loaded with anything other than approved non-toxic shot while hunting ducks, geese and coots anywhere in the state. Additional shot restrictions may be in place at select state fish and wildlife areas. For details, check with the property where you plan to hunt.

Hunting from a Boat

Migratory game birds may be hunted from a motorboat provided it is beached, resting at anchor, tied to a stationary object, or without motion other than that imparted by wind and current acting upon the hull, or due to hand-operated oars or paddles.

Identification Requirements

While in the field or traveling from the field to your home, migratory game birds in your possession must have one fully feathered wing or head attached to the carcass for identification purposes.

Wanton Waste

All migratory game birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field. You may retrieve dead or injured birds by hand or from a motorboat under power, but crippled birds may not be shot

from a boat under power or in motion due to motor power.

Hunter Orange for Woodcock Hunting

Woodcock hunters must wear exposed at all times as an outer garment one or more of the following articles that is solid hunter orange in color: vest, coat, jacket, coveralls, hat or cap.

Hunting on State Properties

Be sure to check at area headquarters concerning open hunting areas and other special regulations that are in effect on all fish and wildlife areas and reservoirs. Some properties require non-toxic shot for species other than waterfowl.

Restrictions

No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance.
- From a sink box (a low, floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance.
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

- By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, if the person knows or reasonably should know that the area is baited. Baiting includes the placing of corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed to serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. It is a separate offense to place or direct placement of bait on or adjacent to an area for the purpose of causing or allowing hunters to take or attempt to take birds by the aid of bait or over a baited area. A baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after complete removal of any bait. The maximum federal penalties are: for hunting over bait: \$15,000/6 months jail; placing bait: \$100,000/1 year jail.
- By the use of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds.

Tagging Requirements

No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

- hunter's signature
- hunter's address
- total number of birds involved by species
- dates such birds were killed

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

Shipping Migratory Birds

No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: